

MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Guidelines for Nomination

Criteria

The selection criteria from the National Teacher of the Year office serve as helpful reminders as you initiate the process of nominating your teacher. The criteria are characteristics typical of excellent teachers regardless of community type or years of experience. Keeping these criteria in mind will help you identify candidates worthy of recognition.

- Be an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled teacher in any state-approved or accredited school, pre-kindergarten through grade twelve, who is planning to continue in an active teaching status (supervisory and administrative responsibilities should be of secondary consideration.)
- Inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn.
- Have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues.
- Play an active and useful role in the community, as well as in the school.
- Be poised, articulate, and possess the energy to withstand a taxing schedule.

Above and beyond these criteria exist characteristics that are very personal and individual. It is this last filter that distinguishes the exceptional from the excellent. Do not hesitate to look for teachers who bring a certain unique spark to their many relationships with teaching and learning.

Sources of Nominations

Traditionally, local district principals and superintendents have submitted nominations. However, we would like to encourage you to consider expanding the nomination process by accepting nominations from a broader community. Teaching colleagues, former students and other community members might offer valuable vantage points from which to view the classroom learning experience.

Michigan nominees must currently spend a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of their time teaching students.